THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 29th March 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Libraries in South Kanara

* 1677 *Q*.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of libraries in South Kanara subsidized by the Government; and

(*b*) the total subsidy given in the year 1953–54?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The number of libraries in the South Kanara district subsidized by the Government is 113.

" (*b*) The total expenditure incurred on the payment of grants to the libraries during 1953–54 was Rs. 5,905."

SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, may I know whether it is the policy of the Government to grant subsidies only to libraries that are registered or to grant subsidies to all libraries that are not registered but are maintained properly? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, it is governed by rules. Unless the conditions prescribed in the rules are satisfied we cannot grant subsidies."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" How many of these are mobile libraries, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I don't think there is any mobile library out of these 113 in the South Kanara district."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, may I know whether, according to the Government Order, a library has to be registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That is not necessary, Sir."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Will the Government consider the necessity for revising the recent instructions that they have issued to the library authorities to grant a day's holiday? So far as Malabar is concerned, I think they have declared Saturday as the holiday. May I know whether the Government will be

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prepared to see that no holiday was given so far as the libraries are concerned and at the same time also see that the library workers' interests are not affected, by appointing more workers?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"Sir, I do not see any difficulty in giving a holiday for libraries. They may close on a working day when the libraries may not be fully utilized. So, I do not think we should increase the number of workers for that purpose and deny them a holiday."

SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM :—"Sir, the Hon. Minister said that a sum of Rs. 5,905 was granted as subsidy. May I know whether this sum was granted for the purchase of books or for meeting recurring expenditure?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"For meeting recurring expenditure, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"May I know whether such subsidies are granted on a uniform scale or whether there are different grades?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—"Sir, there are different grades. For libraries under private managements and co-operative societies, after 1952–53, the grant allowed is Rs. 95, for libraries under panchayats it is Rs. 40 and for libraries run by grama sanghams it is Rs. 25."

House rent allowance for Shoranur Panchayat Board employees

* 1678 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolution passed by the Shoranur Major Panchayat Board, South Malabar, on 24th November 1954 requesting the Government to declare Shoranur an urban area and permit payment of house rent allowance to its employees; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"The proposal of the Shoranur Panchayat Board contained in its resolution No. 237, dated the 17th November 1954, for payment of a house-rent allowance of Rs. 3 per mensem to its sanitary workers has been approved by Government as a special case."

Gem Tile works

* 1679 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received from the Manamadurai Tile Workers' Union regarding the closure of Gem Tile Works belonging to the Madura Manufactories, Limited; and

(*b*) the steps taken to re-open the factory?